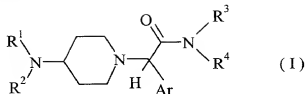


Patent Claims

We Claim:

1. A compound of formula (I):



or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof,

wherein

R^1 denotes 3-hydroxypropyl, 1,3-dihydroxyprop-2-yl or C_3 - C_6 -cycloalkylmethyl,

R^2 denotes hydrogen, C_1 - C_6 -alkyl, ω -hydroxy- C_2 - C_4 -alkyl, 1,3-dihydroxyprop-2-yl or C_3 - C_6 -cycloalkylmethyl,

Ar denotes unsubstituted phenyl or phenyl which is 1- to 5-substituted by halogen, hydroxy, C_1 - C_4 -alkyl, C_1 - C_4 -alkoxy, C_1 - C_4 -fluoroalkyl, C_1 - C_4 -fluoroalkoxy or $-OCH_2O-$;

R^3 denotes phenyl- C_1 - C_4 -alkyl, wherein the phenyl group may be substituted by 1 to 3 substituents, wherein the substituents independently of one another are selected from halogen, hydroxy, C_1 - C_4 -alkyl, C_1 - C_4 -alkoxy, C_1 - C_4 -fluoroalkyl, and C_1 - C_4 -fluoroalkoxy;

and

R^4 denotes hydrogen, C_1 - C_4 -alkyl, C_3 - C_8 -cycloalkyl, CH_2COOH , $-CH_2C(O)NH_2$, $-OH$ or phenyl- C_1 - C_4 -alkyl.

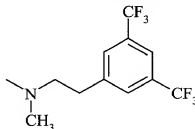
2. A compound according to claim 1, wherein R^4 is C_1 - C_4 -alkyl.

3. A compound according to claim 1, wherein Ar is unsubstituted phenyl or 2,3-methylenedioxyphenyl.

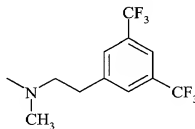
4. A compound according to claim 2, wherein Ar is unsubstituted phenyl or 2,3-methylenedioxyphenyl.
5. A compound according to claim 1, wherein R³ denotes 2-phenylethyl, where the phenyl group may be substituted by 1 to 3 substituents, wherein the substituents independently of one another are each selected from among halogen, hydroxy, methyl, methoxy, trifluoromethyl or trifluoromethoxy.
- 10 6. A compound according to claim 2, wherein R³ denotes 2-phenylethyl, where the phenyl group may be substituted by 1 to 3 substituents, wherein the substituents independently of one another are each selected from among halogen, hydroxy, methyl, methoxy, trifluoromethyl or trifluoromethoxy.
- 15 7. A compound according to claim 3, wherein R³ denotes 2-phenylethyl, where the phenyl group may be substituted by 1 to 3 substituents, wherein the substituents independently of one another are each selected from among halogen, hydroxy, methyl, methoxy, trifluoromethyl or trifluoromethoxy.
- 20 8. A compound according to claim 4, wherein R³ denotes 2-phenylethyl, where the phenyl group may be substituted by 1 to 3 substituents, wherein the substituents independently of one another are each selected from among halogen, hydroxy, methyl, methoxy, trifluoromethyl or trifluoromethoxy.
- 25 9. A compound according to claim 1, wherein R³ is 2-(3,5-bis(trifluoromethyl)phenyl)-ethyl.
10. A compound according to claim 2, wherein R³ is 2-(3,5-bis(trifluoromethyl)phenyl)-ethyl.
- 30 11. A compound according to claim 3, wherein R³ is 2-(3,5-bis(trifluoromethyl)phenyl)-ethyl.

12. A compound according to claim 4, wherein R^3 is 2-(3,5-bis(trifluoromethyl)phenyl)-ethyl.

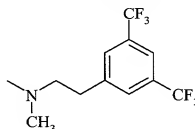
13. A compound according to claim 1, wherein the group $-NR^3R^4$ is



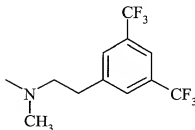
14. A compound according to claim 2, wherein the group $-NR^3R^4$ is



15. A compound according to claim 3, wherein the group $-NR^3R^4$ is



16. A compound according to claim 4, wherein the group $-NR^3R^4$ is



17. A compound according to claim 1, wherein
 R^1 denotes a cyclopropylmethyl group, and
 R^2 denotes a hydrogen atom, a C_1 - C_3 -alkyl group or a 3-hydroxypropyl group.
18. A compound according to claim 2, wherein
 R^1 denotes a cyclopropylmethyl group, and
 R^2 denotes a hydrogen atom, a C_1 - C_3 -alkyl group or a 3-hydroxypropyl group.
19. A compound according to claim 3, wherein
 R^1 denotes a cyclopropylmethyl group, and
 R^2 denotes a hydrogen atom, a C_1 - C_3 -alkyl group or a 3-hydroxypropyl group.
20. A compound according to claim 4, wherein
 R^1 denotes a cyclopropylmethyl group, and
 R^2 denotes a hydrogen atom, a C_1 - C_3 -alkyl group or a 3-hydroxypropyl group.
21. A compound according to claim 1, wherein
 R^1 denotes a 3-hydroxypropyl or 1,3-dihydroxyprop-2-yl group, and
 R^2 denotes a hydrogen atom, a C_1 - C_3 -alkyl group or a 2-hydroxyethyl group.

22. A compound according to claim 2, wherein

R¹ denotes a 3-hydroxypropyl or 1,3-dihydroxyprop-2-yl group, and

R² denotes a hydrogen atom, a C₁-C₃-alkyl group or a 2-hydroxyethyl group.

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23. A compound according to claim 3, wherein

R¹ denotes a 3-hydroxypropyl or 1,3-dihydroxyprop-2-yl group, and

R² denotes a hydrogen atom, a C₁-C₃-alkyl group or a 2-hydroxyethyl group.

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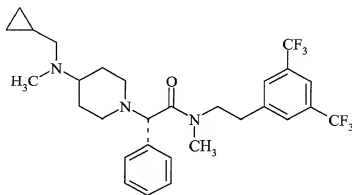
24. A compound according to claim 4, wherein

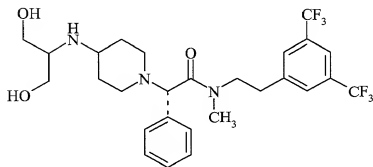
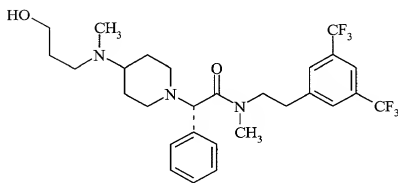
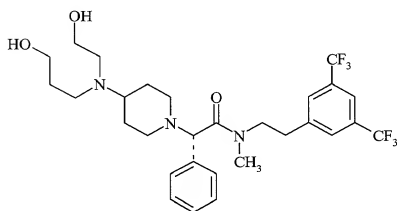
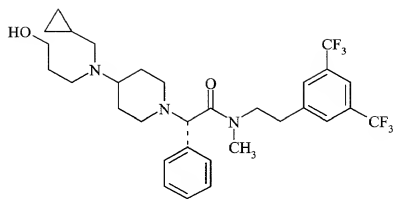
R¹ denotes a 3-hydroxypropyl or 1,3-dihydroxyprop-2-yl group, and

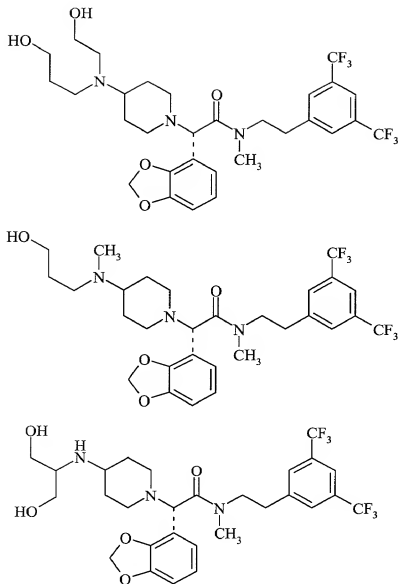
R² denotes a hydrogen atom, a C₁-C₃-alkyl group or a 2-hydroxyethyl group.

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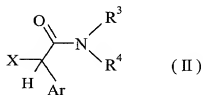
25. A compound according to claim 1, selected from the following compounds:





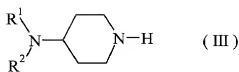


26. A process for preparing a compound of formula I according to claim 1, said process comprising reacting an amide of formula II



wherein Ar, R³ and R⁴ are as defined in claim 1 and X denotes a suitable leaving group,

with a piperidine of formula III



wherein R¹ and R² are as defined in claim 1, in an inert solvent in the presence of a base.

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27. A pharmaceutical composition comprising a compound according to claim 1 and one or more pharmaceutically acceptable carriers and excipients.

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28. A method of treating a neurokinin-mediated illness comprising administering to a host in need of such treatment a therapeutically effective amount of a compound according to claim 1.

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29. A method according to claim 28, wherein the illness treated is selected from inflammatory and allergic conditions of the airways, eyes, skin, the gastro-intestinal tract, joints, bones and bladder; and central nervous system diseases.

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30. A method according to claim 28, wherein the illness treated is selected from the following:

asthma, chronic bronchitis, hyperreactive airways, emphysema, rhinitis, COPD, pulmonary hypertension, cystic fibrosis, coughs; conjunctivitis, iritis; dermatitis in contact eczema, neurodermatitis, pruritus, urticaria, psoriasis, sunburn, burns, insect bites, rosacea, itching, sensitive or hypersensitive skin; gastric and duodenal ulcers, ulcerative colitis, Crohn's disease, inflammatory bowel disease, irritable colon, Hirschsprung's disease, motility problems; rheumatoid arthritis, reactive arthritis, arthrosis, osteoporosis and Reiter's syndrome;

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irritable bladder, incontinence, urinary urgency, urethritis, colic and cystitis; restless leg syndrome;

dementia, Alzheimer's disease, schizophrenia, psychoses, anxiety states, alcohol or drug dependency, sexual dysfunctions, eating disorders, depression, headaches, epilepsy,

5 Parkinson's disease, stroke;

Herpes zoster, postherpetic pain, tumors, collagenoses, a dysfunction of the deferent urinary tracts, haemorrhoids, nausea and vomiting, and pain.

31. A method according to claim 29, wherein the illness is selected from: COPD,
10 anxiety states and depression.